NCI Design Workshop for Cisco

Product Code: CNS-INF-A-WRK-DES-CSCO

At-a-Glance

Stage: Design

The Nutanix Cloud Infrastructure (NCI) Design Workshop for Cisco equips IT teams with practical, in-depth guidance to architect robust on-premises NCI clusters on Cisco UCS Infrastructure. It addresses key design considerations such as scalability, integration, functionality, and operational requirements. This workshop is especially valuable during the design phase of a hybrid multicloud journey—particularly for complex environments involving third-party applications and automation.

Related Services

- NCI Cluster Deployment or Expansion for Cisco

Service Scope

Nutanix-certified consultants with deep domain expertise and real-world experience lead a series of collaborative design workshops to define solution requirements and desired business outcomes. These sessions engage key customer stakeholders from architecture, virtualization, and networking teams to ensure alignment across all technical domains.

Following the workshops, the consultant delivers a comprehensive Nutanix configuration workbook and design document that captures the conceptual, logical, and physical elements of the solution architecture—providing a clear blueprint for successful implementation.

Starter Edition

The Starter Edition includes the following activities:

- Gather and document solution requirements, constraints, assumptions, dependencies, and decisions in a series of workshops
- Develop NCI architecture, including interoperability, security, and scalability for future growth
- Define integration with Active Directory (AD)/LDAP and IPAM/DNS environments
- Develop on-premises NCI cluster design
- Design virtual networking, including integration with the physical network
- Design virtual storage, including container layout and associated storage optimization features
- Validate cluster sizing based on workload details provided by the customer
- Design management plane and operations dependencies
- Develop a plan for system functional validation testing
- Design security, including data-at-rest encryption, SSL certificate, password complexity, and syslog

Pro Edition

The Essential Edition includes the following activities:

- Gather and document solution requirements, constraints, assumptions, dependencies, and decisions in a series of workshops
- Develop NCI architecture, including interoperability, security, and scalability for future growth
- Define integration with Active Directory (AD)/lightweight directory access protocol (LDAP) and IP address management (IPAM)/domain name service (DNS) environments
- Develop on-premises NCI cluster design
- Design virtual networking, including integration with the physical network
- Design virtual storage, including container layout and associated storage optimization features
- Validate cluster sizing based on workload details provided by the customer
- Plan Controller Virtual Machine (CVM) and AHV security hardening and compliance as per the *Nutanix Security Operations Guide*
- Develop a plan for system functional validation testing
- Design security, including data-at-rest encryption, SSL certificate, password complexity, and syslog

Ultimate Edition

The Ultimate Edition includes the following activities:

- Everything included in the Pro Edition
- Assess the current state of virtualization elements included in the design
- Assess datacenter infrastructure and rack design
- Plan for VM backup and data protection
- Design to support the migration of existing workloads and storage into the new environment
  - Review the existing environment at a high level to support sizing
  - Develop high-level migration methodology
- Design role-based access control (RBAC) and Nutanix categories/tagging
- Design security and required cloud access controls

Optional Activities for the Advanced Edition
- Design for Nutanix Flow Virtual Networking VPC
- Design for Nutanix Flow Network Security Microsegmentation

Site Design Topology

Each edition supports either single site or multisite disaster recovery (DR) topology design.

Starter Edition
- **Single Site** – Single site design in a single physical site.

Pro and Ultimate Edition
- **Multisite DR** – DR active/active, active/passive, or hub-spoke design configuration
  - Including Flow Virtual Networking VPC configurations spanning multiple locations (Advanced Edition only)

o Gather recovery point objective (RPO) and recovery point objective (RTO) requirements for workloads, including DR and replication considerations

Limitations

- Limited to general virtualization. Workload-specific designs are available, including:
  - o NKP Design Workshop
  - o AI/ML Design Workshop
- Excludes detailed migration planning. Detailed planning, including migration wave planning, is available as part of the Virtual Machine Migration Workshop.
- Excludes design for Cisco Intersight and Cisco UCS Fabric Interconnects

Starter Edition

- For each quantity purchased, design is limited to a single production environment at one physical site.

Pro and Ultimate Editions

- For each quantity purchased, design is limited to a single production environment spanning multiple physical sites.
- Design is limited to 2 distinct site patterns, though multiple instances of each pattern can be deployed (common for hub-spoke or branch office architectures)

Supported Hypervisors

- Nutanix AHV
- VMware ESXi

Prerequisites

- None

Related Product Licenses

- None

Delivered Artifacts

- Configuration Workbook
- Design Documentation (Standard Documentation Only)

Level of Effort

Site Topology/ Documentation Type	Starter	Pro	Ultimate
Single Site Workshop Documentation	Typically up to 3 days	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Single-Site Standard Documentation	Typically up to 5 days	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Multisite DR Workshop Documentation	Not Applicable	Typically up to 6 days	Not Applicable
Multisite DR Standard Documentation	Not Applicable	Typically up to 9 days	Typically up to 14 days

Delivery Type

Delivery Type	Delivery Activities
In-person	• In-person workshop • Virtual documentation

Related Products

- Nutanix Cloud Infrastructure (NCI)

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